



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

85

REGION 5

230 SOUTH DEARBORN ST.

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60604

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

SHS-11

June 8, 1990

Peter Vagt
Warzyn Engineering Inc.
2100 Corporate Drive
Addison, Illinois 60101

RE: Proposed Residential Well Sampling
Locations - American Chemical Services
NPL Site - Griffith, Indiana

Dear Dr. Vagt:

I received your letter of June 1, 1990 in which you propose locations for the collection of 6 residential well samples near the ACS site. Generally, I agree with the locations you have selected for wells completed in the deep aquifer, since according to two previous well surveys, these wells represent the only deep aquifer wells located in close proximity to the site. However, I am concerned with the effect that site contamination may be having on the local shallow aquifer. The shallow aquifer is known to be heavily contaminated on-site and it is possible that the vadose zone may be enhancing contaminant transport off-site. Based upon these concerns, I am requesting that you sample an additional three shallow wells and one deep well from residences surrounding the site.

I believe it is necessary to sample some shallow wells even though they are used primarily for utility purposes such as lawn watering, etc. Many of the local residents have expressed concern about their shallow wells because many of them have children who use the shallow aquifer water for playing and some use the water for growing vegetables. EPA is concerned that if contaminants are present in these shallow aquifer residential wells, residents may be exposed to site contaminants. The sampling of these wells would also be on course for a prudent investigation of the shallow aquifer.

Optimum locations for obtaining additional residential well samples would be in the residential areas located north of Main St. and the areas west of the site. Exact locations for these samples are to be selected by you and your project team and verbally approved by myself over the telephone. Locations should be selected according to their proximity to the site (i.e. closest) and their location with respect to known groundwater flow.

The additional deep well sample should be collected from 1009 Reder Road. This location is the closest one to the site and has a history of questionable results. Following sampling performed by ACS in 1985, it was reported that this well contained low levels of benzene, xylene and toluene. Results of sampling performed for this well by EPA in 1986, revealed non-detectable quantities for these compounds. Due to its history, it is believed prudent to sample this well also.

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These requirements would bring the number of residential well samples to ten (10), which is the number originally proposed in the RI/FS Work Plan.

Please contact me when you have selected the three shallow aquifer sampling locations. My number is (312) 886-5116.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert E. Swale", written in a cursive style.

Robert E. Swale
Remedial Project Manager

cc: Paul Courtney, IDEM